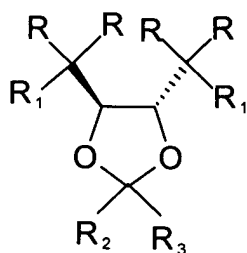


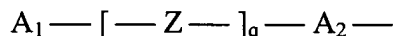
IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

18. (Currently Amended) An optically active compound of the formula:

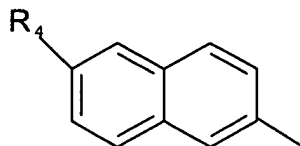


where the R₂ and R₃ groups are ~~a methyl, another~~ lower alkyl group or an aryl or biaryl unit while the R₁ groups independently each are a hydroxyl, alkoxyl, aryloxy, or arylalkoxy group, the R groups each represent a group as follows:

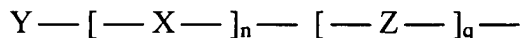


where A₁ is an aromatic group, an acyclic aliphatic group, or an alicyclic group, and A₁ can be a substituted or unsubstituted ~~group~~, Z is a group selected from -O-, -OCO-, or -S-, and the coefficient q is 0 or 1; ~~or Z may also be~~ is (CH₂)_nO where the coefficient n is 0 to 5 and the coefficient q is 1; ~~and~~ and A₂ is a bivalent radical of a naphthalene group, and the cyclic structure of A₂, or A₁ if it is cyclic, ~~optionally~~ can be heterocyclic, ~~such as by replacement of one or more CH member(s) of the ring structure with N, O and/or S.~~

19. (Currently Amended) The optically active compound of claim 18, where each R substituent is independently selected as:



where R_4 represents a group as follows:

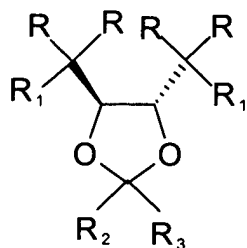


where n is an integer value of ≥ 0 ~~or 1 or more~~, X is $-CH=CH-CH_2-$, or $-(CH_2)_m-$ where m is an integer value of $\geq 1, 2, 3,$ ~~or more~~, Y is a radical of an aromatic hydrocarbon, an acyclic aliphatic hydrocarbon, or an alicyclic hydrocarbon, and Y can be a substituted or unsubstituted group, and Z and q have the same respective meanings as defined in claim 18.

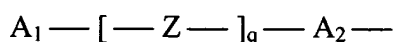
20. (Original) The optically active compound of claim 19, where R_4 is an aryloxy radical, an arylalkoxy radical, an arylalkyleneoxy, or an arylalkenyleneoxy radical.

21. (Original) (4R, 5R)-2,2-dimethyl- $\alpha, \alpha, \alpha', \alpha'$ -tetrakis[6-(benzyloxy)naphth-2-yl]-1,3-dioxolane-4,5-dimethanol.

22. (Currently Amended) A liquid crystalline mixture, comprising:
a liquid-crystalline base having liquid crystalline properties;
at least one optically active compound of the formula:

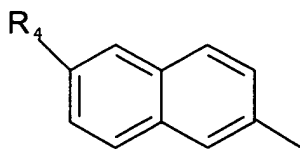


where the R_2 and R_3 groups are methyl, another lower alkyl group or an aryl or biaryl unit while the R_1 groups independently each are a hydroxyl, alkoxyl, aryloxy, or arylalkoxy group, the R groups each represent a group as follows:

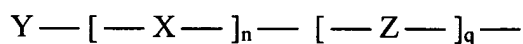


where A_1 is an aromatic group, an acyclic aliphatic group, or an alicyclic group, and A_1 can be a substituted or unsubstituted group, Z is a group selected from $-O-$, $-OCO-$, or $-S-$, and the coefficient q is 0 or 1. ~~Z may also be or Z is $(CH_2)_nO$ where the~~ coefficient n is 0 to 5 and the coefficient q is 1: and A_2 is a bivalent radical of a naphthalene group, and the cyclic structure of A_2 , or A_1 if it is cyclic, ~~optionally~~ can be heterocyclic, ~~such as by replacement of one or more CH member(s) of the ring structure with N, O and/or S.~~

23. (Currently Amended) The liquid crystalline mixture of claim 22, where each R substituent is independently selected as:



where R_4 represents a group as follows:



where n is an integer value of ≥ 0 ~~or 1 or more~~, X is $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-\text{CH}_2$, or $-(\text{CH}_2)_m-$ where m is an integer value of $\geq 1, 2, 3$, ~~or more~~, Y is a radical of an aromatic hydrocarbon, an acyclic aliphatic hydrocarbon, or an alicyclic hydrocarbon, and Y can be a substituted or unsubstituted group, ~~and Z and q have the same respective meanings as defined in claim 18.~~

24. (Original) The liquid crystalline mixture of claim 23, where R_4 is an aryloxy radical, an arylalkoxy radical, an arylalkyleneoxy, or an arylalkenyleneoxy radical.

25. (Currently Amended) The liquid crystalline mixture ~~according to~~ of claim 22, further including an achiral non-liquid crystalline compound.

26. (Currently Amended) The liquid crystalline mixture ~~according to~~ of claim 25, wherein the achiral non-liquid crystalline compound comprises $\text{R}^1-\text{C}\equiv\text{N}$, where R^1 represents an aliphatic group.

27. (Currently Amended) The liquid crystalline mixture ~~according to~~ of claim 26, wherein $\text{R}^1-\text{C}\equiv\text{N}$ ~~comprises~~ represents an alkylnitrile.

28. (Currently Amended) The liquid crystalline mixture ~~according to~~ of claim 26, wherein $\text{R}^1-\text{C}\equiv\text{N}$ ~~comprises~~ represents undecanenitrile.

29. (Original) A liquid crystalline mixture, comprising:

a liquid-crystalline base having liquid crystalline properties;
at least one optically active compound of the formula (4R, 5R)-2,2-dimethyl- $\alpha,\alpha,\alpha',\alpha'$ -tetrakis[6-(benzyloxy)naphth-2-yl]-1,3-dioxolane-4,5-dimethanol.

30. (Currently Amended) The liquid crystalline mixture ~~according to~~ of claim 29, further including an achiral non-liquid crystalline compound.

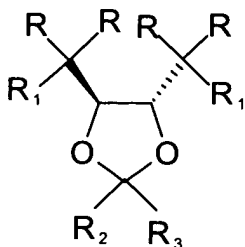
31. (Currently Amended) The liquid crystalline mixture ~~according to~~ of claim 30, wherein the achiral non-liquid crystalline compound comprises $R^1-C\equiv N$, where R^1 represents an aliphatic group.

32. (Currently Amended) The liquid crystalline mixture ~~according to~~ of claim 31, wherein $R^1-C\equiv N$ ~~comprises~~ represents an alkynitrile.

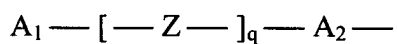
33. (Currently Amended) The liquid crystalline mixture ~~according to~~ of claim 31, wherein $R^1-C\equiv N$ ~~comprises~~ represents undecanenitrile.

34. (Currently Amended) An electro-optical cell comprising a layer including a liquid crystalline mixture sandwiched between two substrate means, and means for applying an electric potential to the substrate means, wherein the liquid crystalline mixture comprises:

a liquid-crystalline base having liquid crystalline properties;
at least one optically active compound of the formula:



where the R_2 and R_3 groups are ~~a methyl, another~~ lower alkyl group or an aryl or biaryl unit while the R_1 groups independently each are a hydroxyl, alkoxyl, aryloxy, or arylalkoxy group, the R groups each represent a group as follows:



where A_1 is an aromatic group, an acyclic aliphatic group, or an alicyclic group, and A_1 can be ~~a substituted or unsubstituted group~~, Z is a group selected from $-O-$, $-OCO-$, or $-S-$, and the coefficient q is 0 or 1; or Z is ~~Z may also be~~ $(CH_2)_nO$ where the coefficient n is 0 to 5 and the coefficient q is 1; and A_2 is a bivalent radical of a naphthalene group, and the cyclic structure of A_2 , or A_1 if it is cyclic, ~~optionally~~ can be heterocyclic, ~~such as by replacement of one or more CH member(s) of the ring structure with N, O and/or S.~~

35. (Currently Amended) A light modulating apparatus comprising ~~an said~~ electro-optical cell ~~according to~~ of claim 34.

36. (Currently Amended) The light modulating apparatus ~~according to~~ of claim 35, wherein the light modulating apparatus comprises a cholesteric display.

37. (Original) A electro-optical cell comprising a layer including a liquid crystalline mixture sandwiched between two substrate means, and means for applying an electric potential to the substrate means, wherein the liquid crystalline mixture, comprises:

a liquid-crystalline base having liquid crystalline properties;
at least one optically active compound of the formula (4R, 5R)-2,2-dimethyl- $\alpha,\alpha,\alpha',\alpha'$ -tetrakis[6-(benzyloxy)naphth-2-yl]-1,3-dioxolane-4,5-dimethanol.

38. (Currently Amended) A light modulating apparatus comprising ~~an~~ said electro-optical cell ~~according to~~ of claim 37.

39. (Original) The light modulating apparatus according to claim 38, wherein the light modulating apparatus comprises a cholesteric display.

40. (Original) An electro-optical cell comprising:
a layer comprising:
at least 70 weight percent (wt%) nematic host mixture; and
at least about 2 wt% (4R, 5R)-2,2-dimethyl- $\alpha,\alpha,\alpha',\alpha'$ -tetrakis[6-(benzyloxy)naphth-2-yl]-1,3-dioxolane-4,5-dimethanol;
first and second substrates disposed above and below, respectively, the layer; and
first and second conductors physically coupled to the first and second substrates, respectively, which permit an electrical potential to be applied across the layer.

41. (Currently Amended) The electro-optical cell ~~as recited in~~ of claim 40, wherein the layer further comprises about 2-6 wt% achiral material.

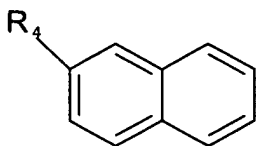
42. (Currently Amended) The electro-optical cell ~~as recited in~~ of claim 40, wherein the layer further comprises a chiral material different from (4R, 5R)-2,2-dimethyl- $\alpha,\alpha,\alpha',\alpha'$ -tetrakis[6-(benzyloxy)naphth-2-yl]-1,3-dioxolane-4,5-dimethanol and having an opposite twist sense.

43. (Currently Amended) A light modulating apparatus comprising ~~an~~ a said electro-optical cell ~~according to claims~~ of claim 40.

44. (Currently Amended) The light modulating apparatus ~~according to~~ of claim 43, wherein the light-modulating apparatus comprises a cholesteric display having a temperature independent reflective wavelength.

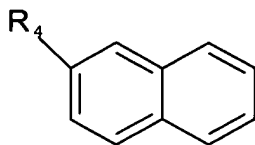
Please add the following claims:

45. (New) The optically active compound of claim 18, where each R substituent is independently selected as:



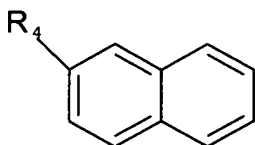
where R₄ is an aryloxy radical, an arylalkoxy radical, an arylalkyleneoxy, or an arylalkenyleneoxy radical.

46. (New) The liquid crystalline mixture of claim 22, where each R substituent is independently selected as:



where R₄ is an aryloxy radical, an arylalkoxy radical, an arylalkyleneoxy, or an arylalkenyleneoxy radical.

47. (New) The electro-optical cell of claim 34, where each R substituent is independently selected as:



where R₄ is an aryloxy radical, an arylalkoxy radical, an arylalkyleneoxy, or an arylalkenyleneoxy radical.